

NS-US055264

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	
	:	Attn.: Mail Stop Issue Fee
Takashi EGUCHI	:	
	:	Patent Art Unit: 2612
Serial No. 10/565,376	:	
	:	Examiner Hongmin Fan
Filed: January 23, 2006	:	
	:	Allowed: February 20, 2008
For: INFORMATION DEVICE	:	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Hongmin Fan for the Notice of Allowability and the thorough examination of the present application. Applicant believes that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is limited to independent claim 1, and is not commensurate with the scope of independent claims 11, 15, 20, 21, 31, 34 and 35. Thus, Applicant believes the description in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance may lead to a possible misinterpretation of independent claims 11, 15, 20, 21, 31, 34 and 35 of the present application. Thus, Applicant wishes to make the following comments of record.

Specifically, the Statement of Reasons for Allowance states that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to show:

An information device for use with an engine of a vehicle, the information device comprising: a lighting means device for providing information about a power position of the vehicle; an engine running detection device for detecting engine running; a gear shift position detection device for detecting gear shift position; and an illuminance control device for controlling illuminance of the lighting device so that, when a detection is made by the engine running detection device that the engine is running and by the gear shift position detection device that the gear shift position is other than in a P range or a N range, the illuminance control device reduces the illuminance of the lighting device compared with the illuminance of the lighting device when the gear shift position is in the P range or the N range.

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Applicant agrees with the Examiner that that prior art fails to disclose or suggest this claimed invention. However, Applicant would like to point out that this Statement is just claim 1 repeated, and that independent claims 11, 15, 20, 21, 31, 34 and 35 have different scopes.

Thus, the Statement of Reasons for Allowance may lead to a possible misinterpretation of claims 11, 15, 20, 21, 31, 34 and 35 of the present application. Accordingly, since the Statement for Reasons of Allowance just claim 1 repeats claim 1, Applicant respectfully asserts that this Statement is limited to independent claim 1. In other words, Applicant respectfully asserts that, to the extent that claims 10 to 36 differ from claim 1, this Statement does not apply to claims 10 to 36. Entry of these comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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